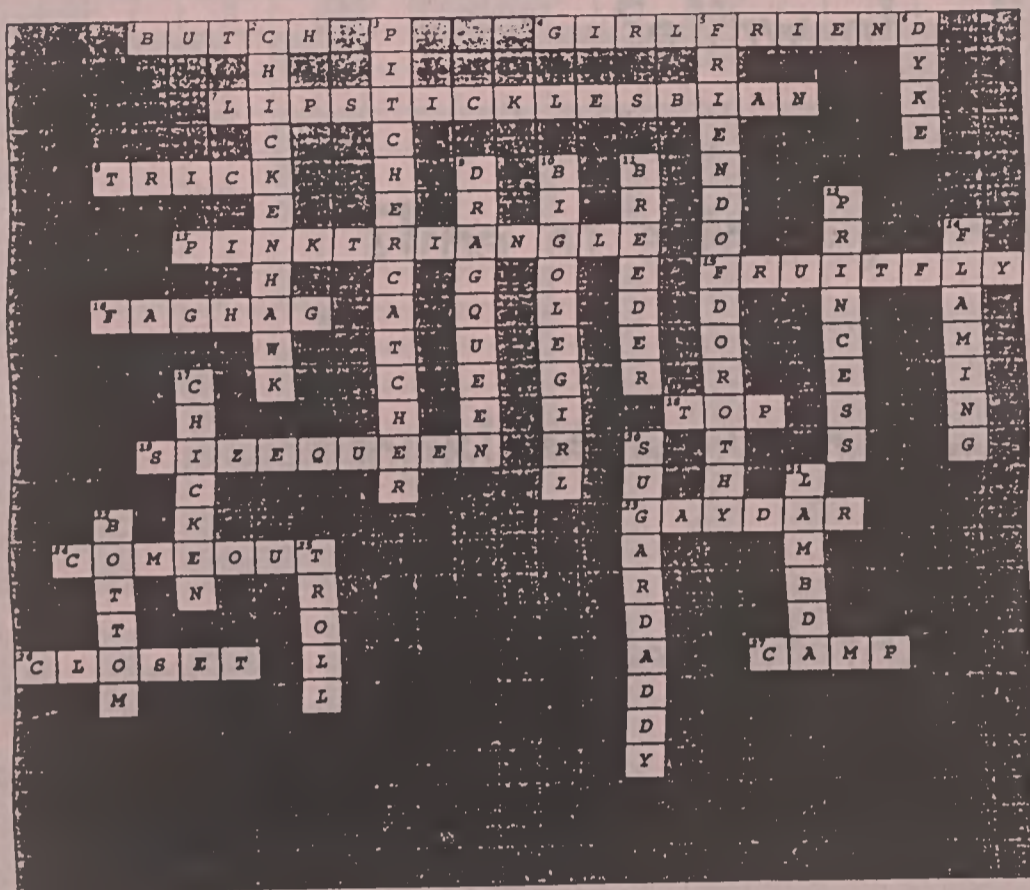


Big Gay Cross-
word Answers



Untitled

by Christine Williams

So here i am in this house again and the dinner table i have sat at for nineteen years has become so foreign to me and i can feel the sweat seething through my hands and i almost feel as if blood is coming from my pores and exposing some sort of truth much like the stigmata ha ha wouldn't grandma be proud just kidding i don't mean to disrespect Catholicism not in this house anyway but its like a truth you don't know and don't want to know and you and dad sit there smiling and i have ani difranco playing in my she's telling me to drive out of range but i can't because i love you and you love me and i have to tell you everything and ani can't compete with you last night as you sang to me your irish lullaby that i have been hearing for as long as i can remember and the distinct smell of the blanket that has been by my side as i sleep every night since i

was born and all this reminds me of an innocence that i miss i wish it could be that simple you sang hush now don't you cry and now i have to sing that to you like our roles are reversed because i am thinking how do i say this ok mom, it's about freedom and so like i don't know how to say so anyway how was your day was it a rough day of work so you want me to get to the point what do i need to say well don't freak and don't delegitimize take my soul in your hands and say i'm in a phase and i'm taking this feminism too far and i know you love me and please don't cry and don't misunderstand put me into the status quo god i hate porkchops why did we have to have them tonight and you will somehow connect my refusal to eat pig flesh as just another of my radical political statements and did i say i need freedom to love who i want and be who i am and i was locked in assumptions for eighteen years and finally i'm free and it's not a fucking phase and please

don't think to yourself that your daughter fucks women and will never be free in this society but don't you know i have manifested freedom in my own life away from the mainstream and i have a strange mixture of sadness running through my head now and reminds me of when i heard amazing grace in church and always cried because Grammy had died and never said hello and never said goodbye so now the music plays again but it's different because you only think part of me has died but i am so alive! and i didn't think it would be this hard but i don't want to hurt you and don't want to get angry i just want things to be simple, simple as when Michelle was caught kissing Jack Squires in sixth grade and you could never understand why i never had a boyfriend and i couldn't either but i also couldn't understand why i wanted to always be with Katie in eleventh grade and i thought we were just friends and nothing else she was just cool and i wish i could smoke another cigarette right now but there's another thing i can't tell you like it would be heralding again the corruption of your daughter but i know you're not like that it's all out of love which is why i can't tell you don't want you to cry because i love you too and i don't want to hurt you but its not a phase its my truth my reality and i want so much for you to be a part of that gees this isn't as easy as the Ellen episode again my life has become a trite sitcom i just want to turn it off sometimes and maybe sit in the snowstorm on channel 8 but it has such an annoying sound i just can't handle and its never interesting and i feel more dead when i watch it than when i watch MTV but back to our regularly scheduled program "Mom and Dad, I have something to tell you." "What is it honey?" "How was work today?" λ